

INVENTOR: Cigelske, Jr.

In the Claims

1-8 (Canceled)

9. (Currently Amended) A shield for preventing arcing from a ~~a~~an electrical stud of a portable welding apparatus, ~~said-the~~ shield comprising a generally inverted U-shaped configuration adapted to at least partially surround the electrical stud, ~~said-the~~ shield constructed of a non-conductive material, ~~said-the~~ inverted U-shaped shield having ~~an-a~~ first planar side having an upper edge, a second planar side extending inwardly from the upper edge of the first planar side and having an inner edge, ~~said-the~~ second planar side oriented in a plane generally perpendicular to the plane of the first planar side, a third planar side extending from the inner edge of the second planar side, ~~said-the~~ third planar side oriented in a plane generally parallel to the plane of the first planar side to form the inverted U-shape.

10. (Currently Amended) The shield as ~~defined in~~of claim 9 wherein the non-conductive material is a plastic material and is preformed into the inverted U-shaped configuration.

11. (Currently Amended) The shield as ~~defined in~~of claim 9 wherein the plastic material is MYLAR plastic and has a thickness of about 10-15 thousandths of an inch.

12-20. (Canceled)

21. (New) A portable welding-type apparatus comprising:  
a housing configured to enclose a plurality of components comprising a welding-type apparatus;  
an electrical bus enclosed within the housing and configured to supply power to perform a welding-type process; and

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**INVENTOR: Cigelske, Jr.**

an electrical shield configured to shield at least a portion of the electrical bus from arcing.

22. (New) The apparatus of claim 21 wherein the electrical bus includes an electrical terminal forming an electrical stud.

23. (New) The apparatus of claim 22 wherein the electrical shield is configured to at least partially surround the electrical stud to prevent arcing between the electrical stud and plurality of components comprising a welding-type apparatus.

24. (New) The apparatus of claim 23 wherein the electrical stud comprises a negative electrical terminal.

25. (New) The apparatus of claim 21 wherein the electrical shield is electrically non-conductive.

26. (New) The apparatus of claim 21 wherein the electrical shield is formed in a substantially U-shape.

27. (New) The apparatus of claim 26 wherein the substantially U-shape includes a first planar side having an upper edge, a second planar side extending inwardly from the upper edge of the first planar side and having an inner edge, the second planar side oriented in a plane generally perpendicular to the plane of the first planar side, a third planar side extending from the inner edge of the second planar side, the third planar side oriented in a plane generally parallel to the plane of the first planar side to form the U-shape.

28. (New) The apparatus of claim 21 wherein the electrical shield is formed in a substantially inverted U-shape.

**INVENTOR: Cigelske, Jr.**

29. (New) The apparatus of claim 21 wherein the electrical shield is comprised of MYLAR.

30. (New) The apparatus of claim 21 wherein the welding-type process includes at least one of a TIG process, a stick process, a plasma cutting process, and an induction heating process.

31. (New) A welding-type device comprising:  
means for controlling a welding-type process;  
means for supplying power to the means for controlling the welding-type process; and  
means for shielding the means for supplying power to prevent arcing from the means for supplying power to the means for controlling the welding-type process.

32. (New) The welding-type device of claim 31 wherein the means for shielding includes an electrical shield comprised of a non-conductive material.

33. (New) The welding-type device of claim 32 wherein the non-conductive material includes MYLAR.

34. (New) The welding-type device of claim 31 wherein the means for shielding includes an inverted substantially U-shaped shield configured to surround at least a portion of the means for supplying power.

35. (New) The welding-type device of claim 31 wherein the means for supplying power includes an electrical stud configured to deliver power from a receptacle to the means for controlling the welding-type process.

**INVENTOR: Cigelske, Jr.**

36. (New) The welding-type device of claim 35 wherein the means for shielding is configured to surround at least a portion of the electrical stud to prevent electrical arcing from the electrical stud.

37. (New) The welding-type device of claim 31 further comprising a means for switching a welding-type process controlled by the means for controlling a welding-type process between a TIG operation mode and a stick operation mode.